

HOUSE BILL 355

F2

6lr1367

By: **Delegates Jones, Stein, and Long**

Introduced and read first time: January 27, 2016

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Community Colleges – Workforce Development Sequence**
3 **Grants and Scholarships**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing Workforce Development Sequence grants and
5 scholarships; requiring the Office of Student Financial Assistance in the Maryland
6 Higher Education Commission to make certain determinations and certain
7 disbursements to certain institutions of higher education under certain
8 circumstances; requiring certain institutions to provide Workforce Development
9 Sequence scholarships to certain students with certain funds; requiring the
10 Commission, in consultation with the Maryland Association of Community Colleges,
11 to develop certain guidelines; requiring certain institutions to consider certain
12 factors in making certain awards; requiring the Governor annually to include a
13 certain appropriation in the State budget for the Workforce Development Sequence
14 grants; authorizing certain students to use certain scholarships for certain purposes;
15 requiring certain institutions to provide the Commission with certain information on
16 or before a certain date each year; requiring the Commission to compile certain
17 information and submit certain information to the Governor and the General
18 Assembly on or before a certain date each year; defining certain terms; and generally
19 relating to Workforce Development Sequence grants and scholarships for community
20 college students.

21 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
22 Article – Education
23 Section 18–101(a) through (c)
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

26 BY adding to
27 Article – Education

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Section 18–3101 through 18–3107 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 31.
2 Workforce Development Sequence Grants and Scholarships”
3 Annotated Code of Maryland
4 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

5 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
6 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

7 **Article – Education**

8 18–101.

- 9 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.
- 10 (b) “Commission” means the Maryland Higher Education Commission.
- 11 (c) “Office” means the Office of Student Financial Assistance.

12 **SUBTITLE 31. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE GRANTS AND**
13 **SCHOLARSHIPS.**

14 **18–3101.**

15 **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
16 **INDICATED.**

17 **(B) “ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION” MEANS A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE**
18 **THAT HAS ELIGIBLE STUDENTS.**

19 **(C) “ELIGIBLE STUDENT” MEANS A STUDENT WHO:**

20 **(1) IS A MARYLAND RESIDENT OR HAS GRADUATED FROM A**
21 **MARYLAND HIGH SCHOOL; AND**

22 **(2) IS ENROLLED AT AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION IN A WORKFORCE**
23 **DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE.**

24 **(D) “WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE” MEANS A PROGRAM**
25 **OFFERED BY A COMMUNITY COLLEGE THAT IS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION AND**
26 **IS COMPOSED OF COURSES THAT ARE RELATED TO:**

27 **(1) JOB PREPARATION;**

28 **(2) LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION; OR**

1 **(3) JOB SKILL ENHANCEMENT.**

2 **(E) “WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE GRANT” MEANS A**
3 **DISBURSEMENT MADE BY THE OFFICE TO AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION UNDER THIS**
4 **SUBTITLE.**

5 **(F) “WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE SCHOLARSHIP” MEANS AN**
6 **AWARD MADE BY AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION TO AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT, FUNDED BY**
7 **A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE GRANT.**

8 **18-3102.**

9 **THERE IS A PROGRAM FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE GRANTS**
10 **THAT ARE DISBURSED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE TO COMMUNITY COLLEGES IN THE**
11 **STATE FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO AWARD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**
12 **SEQUENCE SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS WHO:**

13 **(1) ARE ENROLLED IN A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE;**
14 **AND**

15 **(2) DEMONSTRATE FINANCIAL NEED.**

16 **18-3103.**

17 **(A) THE OFFICE SHALL DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS**
18 **IN THE STATE AND AT WHICH ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION EACH ELIGIBLE STUDENT IS**
19 **ENROLLED.**

20 **(B) THE OFFICE SHALL DISBURSE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE**
21 **GRANTS UNDER THIS SUBTITLE TO EACH ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION BASED ON THE**
22 **NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE STUDENTS ENROLLED AT EACH ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.**

23 **(C) SUBJECT TO § 18-3104 OF THIS SUBTITLE, AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION**
24 **THAT RECEIVES A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE GRANT UNDER THIS**
25 **SECTION SHALL USE THE FUNDS RECEIVED TO PROVIDE WORKFORCE**
26 **DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE SCHOLARSHIPS TO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS AT THE**
27 **ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.**

28 **18-3104.**

29 **(A) THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND**
30 **ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES, SHALL DEVELOP NEED-BASED**

1 FINANCIAL AID GUIDELINES FOR THE AWARDING OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
2 SEQUENCE SCHOLARSHIPS TO ELIGIBLE STUDENTS UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

3 (B) IN AWARDING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE SCHOLARSHIPS
4 UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, AN ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION SHALL CONSIDER:

5 (1) AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT'S FINANCIAL NEED RELATIVE TO THE
6 GUIDELINES DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION; AND

7 (2) LOCAL WORKFORCE NEEDS.

8 18-3105.

9 THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL INCLUDE AN APPROPRIATION OF
10 \$2,000,000 IN THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE COMMISSION TO DISBURSE
11 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS
12 UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

13 18-3106.

14 AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT WHO RECEIVES A WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
15 SEQUENCE SCHOLARSHIP UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY USE THE AWARD FOR
16 TUITION, MANDATORY FEES, AND OTHER ASSOCIATED COSTS OF ATTENDANCE AT
17 THE ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION, AS DETERMINED BY THE ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.

18 18-3107.

19 (A) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, EACH ELIGIBLE
20 INSTITUTION SHALL PROVIDE TO THE COMMISSION THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
21 FOR THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR:

22 (1) THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS WHO RECEIVED A WORKFORCE
23 DEVELOPMENT SEQUENCE SCHOLARSHIP; AND

24 (2) THE AMOUNT OF THE AWARD MADE TO EACH STUDENT.

25 (B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL:

26 (1) COMPILER THE INFORMATION RECEIVED UNDER SUBSECTION (A)
27 OF THIS SECTION; AND

1 **(2) SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246**
2 **OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THE**
3 **INFORMATION COMPILED UNDER ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2016.